



Embassy of the United States of America

U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv Notice of Funding Opportunity (Limited Competition)

Announcement: The Public Diplomacy Section of the United States Embassy in Israel announces the availability of grant funding to support programs and projects that promote **Social Cohesion, STEM/Economic Empowerment, or Equal Protection**. These Federal Assistance programs will be covered under the Catalog of Federal Financial Assistance (CFDA) Number: 19.021 titled “Investing in the Middle East and North Africa”

Amount of Award: Most grants will be awarded for \$20,000-\$40,000 (although smaller or larger proposals may be considered on an exceptional basis). Although all requests that meet the stated criteria will be considered, only a limited number of proposals will be funded.

The deadline for submission is September 3, 2015.

Purpose: The United States and Israel share common values of democracy, entrepreneurship, equal opportunity, rule of law, self-determination. In recognition of the important contribution of civil society in fostering these shared values. This call for proposals looks to support projects and programs that focus on those areas.

Proposal Specifics:

Grant proposals will be considered in the following areas:

1. Strengthen social cohesion and reconciliation

- a. **Purpose:** Build capacity within/between communities for resolving conflicts peacefully in order to strengthen social cohesion and facilitate compromise as evidenced by changes in attitudes, application of learned skills, sustained mixed community engagement on common goal, issue, challenge.
- b. **Intended audience should focus on:** minorities (ethnic, religious), youth, mixed communities
- c. **Activities may include, but are not restricted to:** conflict resolution or mediation skill building, Debate or Model UN for youth (in English), creative problem-solving exercises, joint art projects, and other innovative forms of collaboration that require cooperation.

2. Economic Empowerment – Girls in STEAM and Women in High Tech

- a. **Increase Girls in STEAM - Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics.**

- i. **Purpose:** Increase girls' participation in STEAM by changes in attitudes (of girls, parents, teachers, community), changes in curriculum, or learning and applying STEAM skills either inside or outside the classroom.
- ii. **Primary audience:** minority girls, particularly Arab and Haredi
- iii. **Activities may include, but are not restricted to:** robotics, programming, app development, hack-a-thons, entrepreneurship development, pitching, or otherwise using STEAM to creatively engage in the community, environment, fashion, design, food, etc.; hands-on, community-based competitions; positive messaging; coordination among high schools, colleges and universities, and the high-tech industry to provide linkages between stakeholders to create an education framework that prepares youth, especially girls, for a changing economy.

b. **Increase Women in High-tech and entrepreneurship**

- i. **Purpose:** Increase the number of women, particularly minority women, in high-tech and entrepreneurship via skill-building, mentoring, job placement, HR capacity building, or other innovative project.
- ii. **Primary audience:** economically disadvantaged women, particularly ethnic and religious minorities.
- iii. **Activities may include, but are not restricted to:** skill building such as creative tech training, programming, app development, hack-a-thons, entrepreneurship development, pitching, or otherwise using STEAM to creatively engage in the community, environment, fashion, design, food, etc.; hands-on, community-based competitions; positive messaging; high-tech linkages to young women; tech-industry diversity hiring practices and workplace innovation.

3. Law Enforcement, Due Process and Equal Protection

- a. **Purpose:** Promote civil rights, equal protection of the law, and due process for all groups in Israel's diverse society, including vulnerable minorities, as evidence by changes in attitudes, increased trust, increased cooperation between communities and law enforcement.
- b. **Primary audience** may include: local community police, lawyers and judges, employers, community centers, minority rights groups.
- c. **Activities may include, but are not restricted to:** facilitating constructive dialogue and creative problem-solving between communities and local police, innovative engagement on minority rights/equal protection, grassroots initiatives.

- d. **Themes may include:** U.S. society & civil rights history, minority rights, community policing.

Grantee requirements:

- Grantees must be a legally registered not for profit organization or individuals, with a demonstrable track record of performance in successfully carrying out projects of similar scope and content.
- Only applications meeting all required criteria will be considered.

The grantee must be

Proposal requirements:

- **Proposals must propose sustained engagement.** Programs should consist of a series of activities that build upon one another in a logical sequence. One-off events, single workshops, conferences, or meetings will not be considered.
- **Potential for long-term impact:** Proposals that demonstrate long-term sustainability, self-sufficiency, impact and continuity beyond the grant period (usually one year or less), and which establish a network among the participants, partners, mentors – as well as with other, outside initiatives – will receive the highest consideration.
- **Proposals must include clear objectives and measurable performance indicators** (e.g., if x is done, it will achieve y). Indicators may include (but are not limited to): attitude changes, application of learned skills to produce product/solution. Successful programs will have concrete outputs that are the direct result of collaboration among the participants.
- Proposals should include **U.S. models, exemplars, speakers, artists**, etc., when appropriate.
- Proposals should also describe how the participants will attain an **increased understanding of the United States**, its people, society, culture, government, values, and/or policies.
- Proposals must be in English
- Detailed budget must be included

Additional information:

How to submit proposals: email the following to TelAvivGrants@state.gov

- **Cover sheet** indicating only one funding area (1. Social Cohesion, 2. Girls in STEAM/Women in High Tech, or 3. Law Enforcement), Project Title, Start/End Dates, Budget Total, Name of Organization.

- Brief but detailed **proposal** indicating Goal, Objectives, Indicators of Success, Activities, Products/Outputs/Assessment, Detailed Budget, Budget Narrative, Prior Funding Sources/Amounts.

Notification to applicants: The Public Diplomacy Section will contact finalists by **10 September 2015**, of their preliminary selection, with instructions for submission of next steps and request for additional documentation, if applicable.